

In the claims:

For the Examiner's convenience, all pending claims are presented below with changes shown in accordance with the mandatory amendment format. Please cancel claims 27-30 without prejudice.

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a first set of field replaceable units each being of a first type;

a first management bus, coupled to the first set of field replaceable units, type specific to couple only to field replaceable units having the first type; and

a central management agent, coupled to the first management bus, to monitor each of the first set of field replaceable units and transmit signals to control each of the first set of field replaceable units; and

~~a field replaceable unit type specific management bus coupled to the central management agent.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 further comprising a communication link, coupled to the central management agent, to transmit signals received from the central management agent indicating failure of one or more of the first set of field replaceable units;
~~wherein the system further comprises a plurality of field replaceable units of a first type which are coupled to the central management agent by said field replaceable unit type specific management bus.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2, wherein the system further comprises:

a second management bus, coupled to the central management agent, type specific to couple only to field replaceable units having a second type type; and

a second set of field replaceable units each being of the second type;
~~a second field replaceable unit type specific management bus; and~~
~~a second plurality of field replaceable units of a second type which are coupled to the~~
~~central management agent by said second field replaceable unit type specific management~~
~~bus.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 3, wherein ~~said field replaceable unit type~~
~~specifie~~ the first and second management buses are Inter-IC buses.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the system further comprises a
second central management agent coupled to the first management bus~~one of the field~~
~~replaceable unit type specific management buses.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a first set of field replaceable units each being of a first type;
a first management bus, coupled to the first set of field replaceable units, type specific
to couple only to field replaceable units having the first type;
a second set of field replaceable units each being of a second type;
a second management bus, coupled to the second set of field replaceable units, type
specific to couple only to field replaceable units having the second type; and
a central management agent, coupled to the first management bus and the second
management bus, to monitor and transmit signals to each of the first set of field replaceable
units and the second set of field replaceable units.

~~a central management agent;~~

~~a plurality of field replaceable units of a first type;~~
~~a first management bus coupling the central management agent to only the first type~~
~~of field replaceable unit;~~
~~a plurality of field replaceable units of a second type; and~~
~~a second management bus coupling the central management agent to only the second~~
~~type of field replaceable unit.~~

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the central management agent is a processor.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein the plurality of field replaceable units having the ~~of~~ a first type are temperature sensors and the plurality of field replaceable units having the ~~of~~ a second type are power supplies.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, further comprising:
a third management bus, coupled to the central management agent, type specific to
couple only to field replaceable units having a third type; and
a third set of field replaceable units each being of the third type;
~~a plurality of a third type of field replaceable unit; and~~
~~a third management bus coupling the central management agent to only the third type~~
~~of field replaceable unit.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9, wherein the plurality of field replaceable units having the ~~of~~ a third type are fan trays.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, further comprising a second central management agent coupled to the first ~~field-replaceable unit type-specific~~ management bus and ~~coupled to the second field-replaceable unit type-specific~~ management bus.

12. (Withdrawn) A central management agent comprising:
a system management circuit;
a first management bus interface coupled to the system management circuit to communicate management information with only a first type of field replaceable unit; and
a second management bus interface coupled to the system management circuit to communicate management information with only a second type of field replaceable unit.

13. (Withdrawn) The central management agent of claim 12, wherein the system management circuit contains logic to determine that there has been a likely failure in a field replaceable unit of the first type based upon a determination that said first management bus is inoperable.

14. (Withdrawn) The central management agent of claim 13, wherein the central management agent further comprises an interface coupled to the system management circuit to communicate with a remote location.

15. (Withdrawn) The central management agent of claim 14, wherein the central management agent further comprises a third interface coupled to the processor to communicate management information to only a third type of field replaceable unit.

16. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
one or more temperature sensors;
a first management bus coupled to the one or more temperature sensors;
one more fan trays;
a second management bus coupled to the one or more fan trays; and
a central management agent, coupled to the first management bus and the second management bus, to monitor the temperature sensors and the fan trays, and to transmit signals to control activation of the one or more fan trays based upon signals received from the one or more temperature sensors.

~~a chassis;~~
~~a first plurality of interchangeable components located within said chassis;~~
~~a second plurality of interchangeable components located within said chassis;~~
~~a central management agent located within said chassis;~~
~~a first management bus coupled to the central management agent and coupled to each of the first plurality of interchangeable components, wherein the first management bus is not coupled to any other components; and~~
~~a second management bus coupled to the central management agent and coupled to each of the second plurality of interchangeable components, wherein the second management bus is not coupled to any other components.~~

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the system further comprises a central processing unit coupled to the central management agent.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the ~~first plurality of interchangeable components are power supplies~~ central management agent is an abstracting agent.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16 further comprising 18, wherein the ~~second plurality of interchangeable components are fan trays.~~

one or more power supplies; and

a third management bus coupled to the one or more power supplies and the central management agent;

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, further comprising ~~a wherein the central management agent is coupled to an external communication link~~ coupled to the central management agent.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, ~~wherein the system~~ further comprises a second central management agent coupled to the first management bus, to the second management bus, and to the central management agent.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, ~~wherein the system~~ further comprises a redundant first management bus coupled to the central management agent and coupled to each of the first plurality of interchangeable components, wherein the first management bus is not coupled to any other components.

23. (Withdrawn) A method of detecting a component failure in a computer system, the method comprising:

detecting a failure indication at a central management agent for a first of a plurality of management buses; and

determining that a type of field replaceable units has likely failed based on the identity of said first management bus.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein said failure indication is the absence of an expected signal from said first management bus.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the method further comprises sending a signal from said central management agent to a remote location that indicates the type of field replaceable unit that has likely failed.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the method further comprises:

detecting a failure indication at the central management agent from a second one of said plurality of management buses in the computer system; and

determining that a second type of field replaceable unit has likely failed based on the identity of said second management bus.

27-30. (Cancelled)